

# Merry Tuba Christmas Concert Planned Monday at SWOSU

12.02.2015

The Southwestern Oklahoma State University Music Department is joining over 150 cities across the nation and celebrating a tradition over 40 years old by having a “Merry Tuba Christmas” concert this Monday, December 7, on the Weatherford campus.

The public is invited to the free 6 p.m. concert that will feature over 100 tuba, euphonium and sousaphone players from around the state of Oklahoma. The concert will take place in the Fine Arts Center.

The “Merry Tuba Christmas” event was started in 1974 as a tribute to the late William J. Bell who many musicians consider the father of the modern tuba player. The show consists of timeless Christmas carols and allows tubas and euphonium players to showcase their talents this holiday season.

Weatherford Mayor Mike Brown has declared the 7<sup>th</sup> day of December as Tuba Christmas Day and encourages every citizen to attend and enjoy the annual concert.

Randy T. Brooks, alum of SWOSU and director of bands at Elk City Public Schools, will conduct the ensemble this year. Marc Mueller, director of bands at SWOSU, is this year’s guest conductor. Master of Ceremony will be SWOSU tuba instructor Vurl Bland.

Bland said there is speculation that Santa Claus is a tuba player and may make an appearance at the concert. Prizes will also be awarded to the “Best Dressed” players/instruments.

For more information, contact Vurl Bland at 817.233.8920 or [vurl.bland@swosu.edu](mailto:vurl.bland@swosu.edu) and Rhyesa Hamilton at 580.774.3708 or [rhyesa.hamilton@swosu.edu](mailto:rhyesa.hamilton@swosu.edu).